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the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®

ALSO THIS ISSUE:

KAINE
BY DEMATTEIS & FIUMARA

SPIDEY SUNDAYS
BY STAN LEE & MARCOS MARTIN

GRIM HUNT
PART 4

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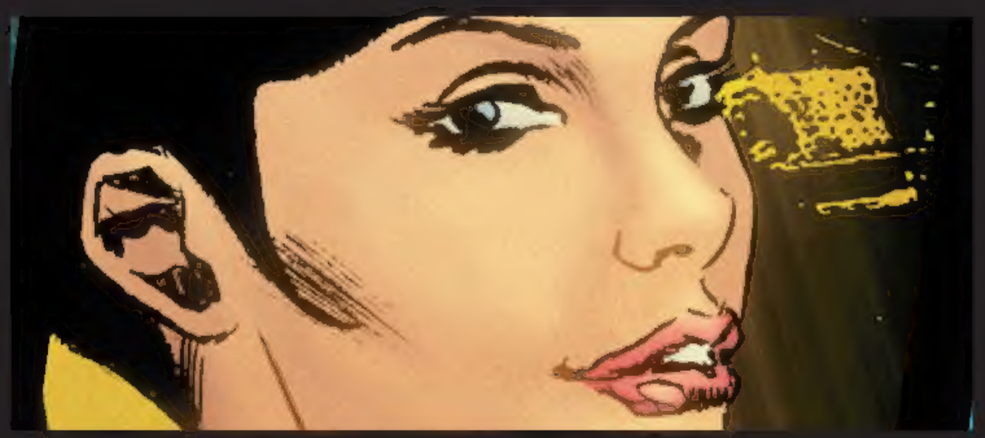
The Amazing Spider-Man

"Call it a clan, call it a network, call it a tribe, call it a family: Whatever you call it, whoever you are, you need one." ~Jane Howard



Sasha Kraven, widow of the famed Sergei "Kraven the Hunter" Kravinoff, has assembled her family — son Alyosha, daughter Ana and brother-in-law The Chameleon — to "hunt Spiders."

In subsequent weeks, they kidnapped the psychic Madame Web, brutalized Spider-Man's renegade clone, Kaine, and murdered Mattie Franklin, the former Spider-Woman, in a bizarre sacrifice that brought Kraven's son Vladimir back to life as a twisted monster.

Kaine managed to warn Peter Parker, the Amazing Spider-Man, of their plot. But the Kravens took the upper hand, kidnapping more spiders — Arachne and Araña — and baiting Spider-Man into their palatial New York estate, where they hunted and eventually killed the wall-crawler, using his sacrifice to bring Sergei back to life.

But they were deceived — they didn't kill Spider-Man, but rather Kaine in disguise. While his blood brought the Hunter back to life, it has cursed him with the "unlife" — leaving Kraven unable to die unless killed by Spider-Man.

As the "web of life" has been upset, New York City has seen nature in an upheaval — animals have gone mad and spiders swarm the streets. Meanwhile, when Parker discovered that Kaine's death brought Sergei back to life, he found himself ready to cross the line . . .

GRIM HUNT

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City Hall Press Room.

FELLOW NEW YORKERS, I WANT TO ASSURE YOU THAT EVERYTHING POSSIBLE IS BEING DONE TO IDENTIFY AND CONTAIN THE CURRENT CRISIS...

"AS HAS BEEN REPORTED, THE *ANIMALS* CURRENTLY ROAMING OUR STREETS ARE *NOT* ALL RESIDENTS OF THE CENTRAL PARK ZOO.

"AND WHILE THE NUMBER OF *RABID HOUSE PETS* IS GROWING, THE MAJORITY OF ANIMALS ARE COMING FROM... SOMEWHERE ELSE."

EXPERTS ARE BEING FLOWN IN, AND THIS OFFICE WOULD CONSIDER IT *EXTREMELY HELPFUL* IF THE *ANIMAL RIGHTS IDIOTS* WOULD BACK OFF AND LET THEM DO THEIR JOB.

"WE DON'T YET KNOW WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS, BUT I PROMISE YOU THAT ONCE THIS CRISIS HAS BEEN AVERTED, THEY *WILL* COME TO JUSTICE."

RESIDENTS ARE ADVISED TO STAY INDOORS AND LOCK THEIR HOUSE PETS IN THE BATHROOM--

HELLO? ARE YOU PEOPLE LISTENING TO ME? YOU LOOK LIKE A BUNCH OF SLACK-JAWED YOKELS! WE'VE DEALT WITH FAR WORSE--

UH... MAYOR JAMESON?

WHAT?

NYPD

THERE'S SOMETHING BEHIND ME, ISN'T THERE?

ONCE UPON A TIME, THERE WAS A GREAT *HUNTER*.

HE HUNTED EVERYTHING ON THE EARTH, AND EVENTUALLY... HE LOST HIS *PURPOSE*.

SO HE WENT OUT OF HIS LEOPARD-SPOTTED MIND AND KILLED HIMSELF...

BUT NOT BEFORE HE TRIED TO *"BECOME"* THE ONE PREY HE COULD NOT DEFEAT...

NOT BEFORE HE SHOT ME AND BURIED ME IN THE GROUND...

NOT BEFORE HE ALMOST DESTROYED MY LIFE...

AND NOW HIS *FAMILY* HAS PICKED UP WHERE HE LEFT OFF...

ATTACKING *SPIDERS*...

MATTIE FRANKLIN...*KILLED*.

SMASHH

MADAME WEB...TORTURED.

YEAGH!

JULIA CARPENTER, ANYA CORAZON... MY "SISTERS"...

ALL ATTACKED...ALL TO GET AT ME...

AND FINALLY, KAINE. DEAD BECAUSE FOR ONCE IN HIS MISERABLE LIFE... HE DID SOMETHING NOBLE.

HE SACRIFICED HIMSELF SO I COULD LIVE...BUT IN THE PROCESS, HELPED TEAM PSYCHO BRING KRAVEN THE HUNTER BACK TO LIFE.

MY "SPIDER FAMILY..." BROKEN.

FOR ME. THIS WAS ALL FOR ME...

HUNT ME

WELL, YOU WANT ME, SASHA KRAVINOFF...?

I'M COMING...

I'M COMING FOR ALL OF YOU.

the GRIM HUNT
conclusion

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dedicated to J.M DEMATTEIS and MIKE ZECK

"UNDERSTAND...YOU WILL HEAR ME SAY THIS ONLY ONCE, FAMILY...

"*APOLOGIES* TO YOU FOR MY OUTBURST. WHILE YOU HAVE BEEN ANTICIPATING MY RETURN FOR MONTHS...

"...MY '*REBIRTH*' WAS SUDDEN, AND HAD ME MOMENTARILY... OFF-BALANCE.

"YOU HAVE GIVEN ME THE MOST PRECIOUS OF ALL GIFTS, MY DEAR ***SASHA***. I PROMISE YOU ***ALL*** THAT I SHALL SQUEEZE EVERY OUNCE OF ***POTENTIAL*** FROM THIS LIFE...

"...WITH YOU, MY DEAR FAMILY... MY ***TRIBE*** BY MY SIDE.

"BUT BEFORE THAT NEW LIFE CAN BEGIN IN EARNEST...A LOOSE END REMAINS.

"THE *SPIDER MUST* BE DEALT WITH."

BUT I AM ***CONFIDENT*** THAT, WITH MY FAMILY... ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE.

I ***NEED*** YOU NOW, MORE THAN EVER.

YOU WILL RECEIVE YOUR INSTRUCTIONS SHORTLY.
THAT IS ALL.
"THAT IS ALL?" SERGEI--?
FATHER, WE HAVE SO MUCH TO TALK ABOUT!
DO NOT QUESTION HIM. HE HAS A PLAN.
TEND TO YOUR BROTHER. WATCH THOSE *SHREWS* IN THE HOLDING ROOM. ALL WILL BE REVEALED.
SERGEI...
...BELOVED HUSBAND...
IT IS SO GOOD TO HEAR YOUR VOICE. YOUR ***REAL*** VOICE, COMMANDING...
TELL ME WHAT YOU WANT, AND I WILL SERVE YOU.
I WANT YOU TO GET YOUR DAMN HANDS OFF OF ME BEFORE I CUT THEM OFF, SASHA.
...
I KNEW... I KNEW THE GREAT *"KRAVEN"* WOULD NEVER APOLOGIZE
WHY DO YOU HATE ME, SERGEI?
...
I HAVE GIVEN MY ORDERS. PREPARE FOR WAR.

ARE YOU MAD?! YOU CAN'T LEAVE *NOW!*

THE HELL I CAN'T. I PLAYED MY PART IN SASHA'S GAME AND *SHE* CHANGED THE RULES WHEN SHE KILLED THE WRONG SPIDER-MAN.

THIS ISN'T A *GAME!* WE ARE YOUR *FAMILY!*

MUST HAVE MISSED ALL OF THE CHRISTMAS CARDS, ALY.

SASHA PAID ME *THREE MILLION DOLLARS* TO TAKE PART IN THIS FARCE. *"FAMILY"* AIN'T FREE.

THEN *EARN YOUR KEEP!*

ALY, YOU'VE NEVER BEEN A *"DRINK THE KOOL-AID"* TYPE. *OPEN YOUR EYES...*

THUD

KRAVEN WAS *MAD* WHEN HE SHOT HIMSELF, AND HE DIDN'T COME BACK ANY BETTER--

THUNK

IF YOU WANT TO LIVE, YOU HAD BETTER LISTEN TO PAPA... AND PREPARE...

HE'S COMING. AND THE *SPYDER* IS SO VERY VERY ANGRY.

RRRRRRRRR

GET OUT OF MY FACE OR FREAKIN' KILL ME ALREADY!

HRR HRRR HRRRRRR

TAKE HEART, CHILD...IT WILL BE OVER SOON.

AND WHAT DOES THAT MEAN EXACTLY? AM I GOING TO DIE?

ALL THINGS DIE, CHILD--

DON'T START THAT YODA CRAP WITH HER, CASSANDRA, OR I'LL REACH OVER THERE AND KILL YOU MYSELF.

THE KID'S TERRIFIED.

SHE IS... BUT SHE IS ALSO SO MUCH MORE...

AFTER TONIGHT... EVERYTHING CHANGES--

DANGER HIGH VOLTAGE

YOU KNEW THIS WOULD HAPPEN!

SLAMM!

EVERYTHING IS *WRONG!* THAT MAN IS *NOT* MY HUSBAND--

LET HER GO!

OH, BUT HE IS...REFRESHED FROM A LONG *NAP*. IT'S LIKE THAT WITH OLD MARRIED COUPLES...SOMETIMES YOU FORGET.

WHAT DO I HAVE TO DO? HOW DO I SAVE MY FAMILY?

HA HA HA! YOU STUPID *SOW*. YOU *BLINDED ME* WITH YOUR *DRUGS* AND YOUR TORTURE AND YOUR *PATHETIC CONNIVING* TO *"RECAPTURE"* A GLORY THAT NEVER EXISTED!

YOU BROKE THE WEB OF LIFE AND NOW I SEE NOTHING!

THEN YOU ARE USELESS TO ME.

NNNGGH

NO!!

THANK YOUR GOD THAT I DON'T HAVE THE TIME TO GIVE YOU THE DEATH YOU DESERVE.

THE OTHER TWO ARE YOURS, VLADIMIR. DO AS YOU--

KADUNK

WHAT IS THAT?

IT'S... TERRIFYING... ISN'T IT? BLINDNESS..?

THIS...IS THE *REAPING*.

YOU HAVE MADE THE SPIDER VERY *VERY* ANGRY.

DON'T YOU PEOPLE HAVE BACK-UP GENERATORS? HOW COULD HE HAVE GOTTEN TO THE GENERATORS--?

FATHER! IS IT HIM--?

WHERE IS HE? FATHER!!

QUIET, IDIOT! USE YOUR SENSES. DON'T GIVE AWAY OUR POSITION.

MY "POSITION" IS GETTING THE HELL OUT OF HERE. WHO'S WITH ME--?

SPLIT

??

YOU HAVE YOUR WISH, COWARD.

GYEAAAAAAAAH!

FIGHT LIKE A MAN, YOU SON OF A--

HAVEN'T YOU BEEN PAYING ATTENTION, ALY? HE ISN'T A MAN ANYMORE.

BRAKOOM!

HE'S THE *SPYDER*. HE'S FATHER'S *GREATEST PREY*...AND NOW HE'S HUNTING *US*.

YOU HAD BETTER STAY CLOSE...

"HE'S GOING TO *THIN THE HERD* IF WE'RE NOT CAREFUL."

DANGER HIGH VOLTAGE

JULIA! ANYA!

CASSANDRA.

DAMN.

RRRRRRR

BRING IT, UGLY.

EVEN AS LIFE FLOWS FROM ME...
I FEEL HIM. HIS *RAGE*. HIS *POWER*...

...ALMOST *UNRECOGNIZABLE*
FROM THE PURE SOUL
I KNOW AS SPIDER-MAN.

KRAMMBLE

HGGGLCHH

THWIPPT

ALMOST...
UNRECOGNIZABLE...

GOD HELP US...

FLOOSH!

...HE...HE IS
THE *SPYDER*.

GCHHHHHH

HOUUUUUUUL!

KRAKKT!

DEVOID OF MERCY...

...PAIN...

SLASHHHH

...HUMANITY.

KRAKKT!

KRAKKT!

KRAKKT!

KRAKKT!

KRAKKT!

NO. NO...IT CAN'T BE LIKE THIS. HE CAN'T BECOME THIS...

KRAKKT!

KRAKKT!

KRAKKT!

KRAKKT!

KRAKKT!

KABLAM!

NNNGH

HE DODGED THE BULLET.

YOU MISSED--

NO. A BULLET MOVES AT 4000 FEET PER SECOND, AND I DON'T MISS.

HE DODGED IT...

HE'S NOT SUPPOSED TO BE THAT FAST.

ALY--

HRRG--!

ANA!

AAAAAAAGH!

WHAT HAVE WE DONE?

KRNCHHH

SKLTCHHH

MOTHER!

WEB...THREADS... UNRAVELLING...

HE CAN FIX IT... HE CAN FIX IT...

LET ME GO! LET ME HELP HER!

SHUT UP!!

SERGEI! WHAT'S HAPPENED?!

WHERE IS MY FAMILY?

LISTEN TO YOURSELF BLEAT. IS THAT HOW YOU LED THE "GREAT KRAVINOFFS" IN MY ABSENCE?

WHERE ARE THE BOYS, SERGEI?

LOST... DEAD? I DON'T KNOW.

"DON'T KNOW?" SERGEI, WHY ARE YOU SO COLD? I BROUGHT YOU HOME, SERGEI. I BROUGHT YOU BACK--

BROUGHT ME BACK...TO WHAT?

TO LIFE!

YOU CALL THIS LIFE!?

THIS PLACE IS HELL!

THWAK

BUT THE JOURNEY YOU HAVE MADE. THE SECRETS YOU MUST KNOW...

YOU WILL RESTORE THIS FAMILY TO GREATNESS--

MY FAMILY... SHOULD NOT HAVE FALLEN FROM GREATNESS WITHOUT ME.

THAT IS WHY I HATE YOU, SASHA. BECAUSE YOU WERE TOO WEAK TO PROTECT AND STRENGTHEN MY TRIBE.

I'LL SHOW YOU HOW WEAK--

TALKING TO YOURSELF IS THE FIRST SIGN OF INSANITY.

FOR YOU, MAYBE SIGN SEVENTY-TWO.

KRAKKOOM!

AAH!

OH MY GOD...

HOW- HOW DID YOU DO THAT? WHERE DID KRAVEN--?

YOU'D BE AMAZED WHAT *ANGER* DOES FOR A BODY, JULIA.

CASSANDRA NEEDS HELP--

TAKE CARE OF HER, PLEASE.

WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?

I'M GOING TO KILL SASHA KRAVINOFF.

HE'S MAKING... A TERRIBLE MISTAKE.

S-SPIDEY..?

YOU MUST STOP HIM, AÑYA. SHOW HIM.

HUSH, CASSANDRA, LET ME TRY TO HELP--

YOU'RE A VERY BEAUTIFUL GIRL. WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME SOMEONE TOLD YOU THAT?

I...I THOUGHT YOU WERE BLIND...

I WAS... I'M SORRY... THAT THERE ISN'T TIME FOR EXPLANATIONS...

AND FOR WHAT I'M GOING TO DO NEXT. MY FINAL SIN...FOR THE GOOD OF THE WEB.

CASSANDRA--? WHAT--?

SOMEONE HAS TO SEE. WITH *FRESH* EYES.

OH MY GOD.

SERGEI! SERGEI, WHAT'S HAPPENING?! HE'S HERE--*WHERE ARE YOU!?*

YOU. IT'S BEEN *YOU* ALL ALONG. PULLING THE *WEB* APART, THREAD BY THREAD.

WAS IT *WORTH IT?* DID YOU GET EVERYTHING YOU *WANTED?*

CONSIDERING EVERYTHING YOU'VE *TAKEN?*

AAAAAH!

BY THE WAY, MY *BROTHER* WANTED TO GIVE YOU THIS.

WAIT--!

SCARLET

...AND BLUE!

W-WAIT--

DID YOU *"WAIT"* FOR MATTIE? CASSANDRA? *KAINE--?*

NOW YOU KNOW WHAT IT FEELS LIKE. TO BE *WOUNDED, HUNTED...*

...SLAUGHTERED.

OVER MY *DEAD BODY,* SPYDER.

YOUR CALL.

TAKE A BREATH, AND DUCK, TOUGH GUY!

NNGH!

ANYA, GET OUT OF HERE!

THOK

ARE YOU REALLY GOING TO KILL THAT LADY..?

...

THEN I'M NOT GOING ANYWHERE.

LOYALTY. EVEN AMONG *MONGRELS*...

INSPIRATIONAL... BUT *MISGUIDED*, CHILD.

EVERYTHING THAT HAPPENED HERE, YOUR PAIN AND SUFFERING, WAS AS I *COMMANDED* IT TO BE.

TO *HARDEN* YOU, SPIDER-MAN. TO FORGE YOU INTO SOMETHING *WORTHY* OF BATTLING *KRAVEN THE HUNTER.*

I CAME BACK FROM THE DEAD TO BAG THE *ULTIMATE PRIZE*...AND IT *FINALLY* STANDS BEFORE ME.

HAVE YOU *SUFFERED ENOUGH*, SPYDER?

OR DO I NEED TO KILL SOMEONE *CLOSER* TO YOU?

YOU'VE DONE ENOUGH!

HRRRRGH!

KSSSSH

SHOW ME WHAT YOU'VE *LEARNED* FROM MY FAMILY.

NNGH

SKLITCH

SPIDER-MAN!

LET'S PLAY... LITTLE *SPIDER-GIRL*...

POISON, KRAVEN?

AFTER EVERYTHING I'VE BEEN THROUGH...

YOU THINK A KNIFE DIPPED IN POISON WILL STOP THIS?!

HRRAGH!!

LITTLE WITCH! YOU'VE RUINED IT! ALL OF YOU!

GLCHH--

THOK

KLUD

NNNNGH!

NO, THIS IS CALLED PAYBACK.

BTW, THE REST OF YOUR JERKHOLE FAMILY IS WATCHING YOU LOSE IT.

NO...

"THE *SPYDERS* HAVE BEEN HUNTING *US*."

S-SASHA... THEY'RE EVERYWHERE... EVERYWHERE...

NNNGH

IT'S TRUE...WE WERE *NEVER* HUNTING HIM...

IT'S NOT *POISON*.

IT'S MY *BLOOD*.

MY *PAIN*.

MY *SHAME*.

MY *RAGE*.

WE ARE *ONE*, SPYDER.

NOT ON YOUR LIFE...

OR THE *SECOND* ONE.

POPT!

YEAGGGH!

THAT WAS YOUR SHOULDER *TORN* FROM ITS SOCKET--

KRNCHHHHH

THAT WAS YOUR *STERNUM* SHATTERING.

I STUDIED ANATOMY TOO.

THIS IS *BRONX, PSYCHO!*

THAT'S A *REAL* JUNGLE, CHICA! SO DROP THE HUNTER ACT AND *LAY DOWN* BEFORE I--

NO...

THIS WILL SET THINGS RIGHT.

NO!!!

PLEASE DON'T...

<THANK YOU>

PAPA...

SPIDER-MAN...

SEE.

OF ALL WHO COULD HAVE BEEN, *YOU* ARE THE SPIDER-MAN. YOU ARE THE ONE WHO CAN CARRY *GREAT* POWER WITH GREATER RESPONSIBILITY...

"IT ISN'T FAIR. IT ISN'T ANYTHING YOU ASKED FOR...BUT THE TRUTH IS THAT YOU REPRESENT THE *MORAL FIBER* THAT RUNS THROUGH EVERYTHING.

"*THAT* IS YOUR *PURPOSE*... YOU ARE THE STRENGTH OF THE *THREAD* FROM WHICH THE WEB OF LIFE IS WOVEN.

"BUT AS A *DESTROYER*...YOU WOULD BE *EQUALLY EFFECTIVE*. AND THE LIVES THAT YOU WOULD RUIN WITH ONE ACT--"

"BUT HOW MANY *LIVES* HAVE BEEN RUINED BECAUSE OF THESE SICK--"

"PAIN IS INEVITABLE, PETER...*SUFFERING* IS OPTIONAL. YOU MUST CHOOSE A HIGHER PATH--

"THEY HAVE DONE TERRIBLE THINGS... BUT IF *YOU* FOLLOW SUIT AND KILL THIS MAN...

"YOU WILL NEVER FORGIVE YOURSELF.

"YOU WILL NEVER HEAL.

"YOU WILL BECOME SOMETHING UGLY AND TERRIBLE...

"AND THE *WEB* WILL BREAK FOREVER.

"SAVE *KRAVEN'S* LIFE, YOU SAVE YOUR *OWN*...AND THE *THOUSANDS* YOU WILL SAVE AFTER THAT...

AND THE MILLIONS *THEY* WILL SAVE AFTER THAT.

YOU ARE THE BEST OF US. THE CENTER *MUST HOLD.*

STRIKE! KILL ME!

SERGEI..?

IT HAS TO BE YOU! WE ARE BOUND! IF YOU DO NOT KILL ME--

--I CANNOT DIE!!

WHAT HAPPENED? WHAT DID SHE SHOW YOU?

I BROUGHT YOU *HOME*, SERGEI. I BROUGHT YOU BACK--

IT WAS *PERFECT*. IT WAS A *MASTERPIECE*.

YOU TOOK THAT MASTERPIECE *AWAY* FROM ME.

PLEASE..?

...

YOU PEOPLE ARE SCREWED UP.

YOU GOT A SECOND SHOT, KRAVEN. GO BE A DENTIST OR SOMETHING...

WE'RE DONE HERE.

NO!

GOOD. THAT...THAT WAS GOOD.

WHAT ABOUT THEM?

GOD, I HOPE SO. C'MON, LET'S GET OUT OF HERE BEFORE I FORGET I'M NOT A *MONSTER*....

WE'LL TAKE THEM TO THE AVENGERS... OR THE A.S.P.C.A... WHATEVER. I JUST HAVE TO--

PWHOOOMP!

OOOOOKAY. SOME KIND OF FLASHPOTS.

THEY'RE GONE. I THINK.

DID WE WIN?

...

AND AS MYSTERIOUSLY AS IT BEGAN, THE WILD RAMPAGE THROUGH THE STREETS OF MANHATTAN CAME TO AN ABRUPT END LAST NIGHT.

BAFFLING ANIMAL EXPERTS AND CITY OFFICIALS ALIKE.

TIMES SQUARE BREWERY

THE LION KING

ANIMAL CONTROL

MAYOR JAMESON APPLAUDED HIS PERSONAL EFFORTS IN THE CRISIS, AND AFTER TREATMENT FOR THE MULTIPLE SPIDER-BITES HE RECEIVED DURING THE PRESS CONFERENCE NOTED--

"IT DOESN'T TAKE A REED RICHARDS TO SEE THAT SPIDER-MAN WAS PART OF THIS TERROR ATTACK ON THE CITY. HE WILL BE BROUGHT TO JUSTICE."

DMT

Potter's Field

YOU MAY NOT BELIEVE THIS FOR A LONG TIME...

IT BARELY MAKES SENSE TO ME...BUT THE SACRIFICE MADE THE *WEB* STRONGER.

KAINE PARKER

A BROTHER

YOUR *UNWILLINGNESS* TO KILL KRAVEN...FOR ALL THAT THEY HAD DONE TO YOU... TO US...

THE *WEB* IS *SAFE. WHOLE.*

KAINE PARKER

ALL VARIATIONS ON A THEME, "WITH GREAT POWER COMES GREAT RESPONSIBILITY."

WHAT?

NOTHING, ANYA...

CASSANDRA WEBB
FRIEND

BY THE WAY, I LIKE THE NEW LOOK, BUT WATCH OUT, JULIA WILL CALL YOU A "BITER."

I *GAVE* IT TO HER, YOU IDIOT.

YEAH, I DON'T KNOW. SOMETHING... *CHANGED.* Y'KNOW?

AFTER THE PAST FEW WEEKS, A T-SHIRT AND CARGO SHORTS JUST DIDN'T FEEL *HEAVY* ENOUGH.

"PAIN IS INEVITABLE, SUFFERING IS OPTIONAL."

THE BAD'S GONNA COME, SPIDER-GIRL... JUST DON'T LET IT *DEFINE* YOU, OKAY?

THANKS, "DAD," I'LL WORK ON IT.

AND IF YOU DON'T MIND...I'M NOT GOING BY *SPIDER-GIRL*. IT'S TOTALLY CORNY AND MAKES YOU WANT TO PUKE.

NAME'S ARAÑA...AND IT'S GONNA *STAY* ARAÑA.

NO OFFENSE.

NONE TAKEN...SOUNDS PERFECT.

NOTHING'S "PERFECT..." LIFE THRIVES IN IMPERFECTIONS...

DON'T ASK ME WHAT IT MEANS. WHATEVER CASSANDRA DID TO ME...I'M A BLIND FORTUNE COOKIE WRITER--

JULIA, I'M--

DON'T APOLOGIZE. IT'S... *RIGHT*. IT WAS SUPPOSED TO HAPPEN. "*LIFE THRIVES ON IMPERFECTIONS.*"

OKAY...WHAT ABOUT THE MANSON-KRAVENS?

THE AVENGERS HAVE NADA.

GONE. BEYOND MY REACH, APPARENTLY... BUT THEY'LL BE BACK...

SOME OF THEM. BALANCE. BUT YOU'LL BE SEEING ME BEFORE THEN...

WHEN..?

THE NEXT TIME

I LIKED IT WHEN SHE WAS JUST *HOT*.

HOT AND MYSTERIOUS IS GONNA BE TROUBLE.

SO, WHAT *IS* NEXT?

NEXT?

JUST *LIFE*...LIFE IS NEXT.

THANKS, "DAD."

SHUT IT, SPIDER-GIRL.

Elsewhere...

PRETTY MUCH AS FAR "ELSEWHERE" AS ONE CAN GO...

THIS IS MADNESS! THEY WERE RIGHT ABOUT YOU! INSANE! COWARD!

I BROUGHT YOU BACK TO SAVE US--

THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT I AM DOING, DARLING.

YOU ARE GETTING YOUR WISH. THE KRAVINOFF FAMILY WILL AGAIN BE RESTORED TO GREATNESS...

IN THE SAVAGE LAND, A NEW FAMILY WILL BE BORN.

I...I DON'T UNDERSTAND.

YOU MADE A *MOCKERY* OF MY LIFE, SASHA. A MOCKERY OF MY FAMILY...AND IF THE KRAVENS ARE TO SURVIVE, THEY MUST BE *HARDENED*...

YOU WILL BE *HUNTED*.

AND IF YOU ARE STRONG ENOUGH TO SURVIVE THIS LAND THEN, *MAYBE* YOU WILL BE WORTHY TO BE *KRAVINOFF*.

HOW DARE YOU?! I AM "KRAVINOFF" NOW!

THIS IS MY FAMILY! NOT YOURS!

KRAKKT

HNKF!

WHAT THE--?

ROARRRRR!

RAAAAARGH!

I'M SORRY, VLADIMIR...YOU DID NOT DESERVE THIS.

THUNKTT

FATHER NO!

RESPECT, ALYOSHA... RESPECT FOR THE DEAD.

BLAMM!

YOU WANT TO PLAY GAMES, PLAY THEM YOURSELF YOU SICK &@%#!

I'M OUT OF HERE!

YOU ARE NOT AFRAID.

OF COURSE NOT. I AM KRAVINOFF.

I HAVE WAITED FOR A LONG TIME, FATHER. I WANT TO LEARN. IF YOU DEEM ME UNWORTHY, STRIKE.

YOU OR YOUR BROTHER.

WHOMEVER RETURNS ALIVE WILL HELP ME BUILD A NEW FAMILY. IT'S FAIR.

YOU SEE? I *TOLD* YOU YOU WOULD FIND SOMETHING TO LIVE FOR...

NOW THE WORK BEGINS.

SMEK

YES...NOW THE WORK BEGINS.

OH ALYYYYYY... COME BACK! I JUST WANT TO TALK!

WE'RE *FAMILY!*

The End

THIS MAN, THIS...*KAINE*. AT FIRST I TOOK HIM FOR JUST ANOTHER HIRED KILLER--SENT HERE BY THAT FOOL *DENTON* TO SATISFY HIS MISPLACED CRAVING FOR REVENGE.

BUT I SEE NOW THAT IT WASN'T DENTON AT ALL.

IT WAS *DESTINY*.

AN UNTOLD TALE OF KRAVEN THE HUNTER

HUNTING THE HUNTER

PART FOUR: BURNING BRIGHT

J.M. DEMATTEIS	MAX FIUMARA	FABIO D'AURIA	VC'S JOE CARAMAGNA	TOM BRENNAN	STEPHEN WACKER	TOM BREVOORT	JOE QUESADA	DAN BUCKLEY	ALAN FINE
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GALE, KELLY, SLOTT, VAN LENTE, WAID & WELLS WEB-HEADS

THERE IS AN AURA AROUND THIS ONE. AN...*ENERGY* THAT I'VE GLIMPSED BEFORE, DANCING ON THE PERIPHERY OF MY VISION...

...WHEN HERBS AND ROOTS HAVE *WIDENED* MY CONSCIOUSNESS. WHEN THE UNIVERSE HAS UNFOLDED INTO DEEP *MEANING*...

STOP!

...AND DEEPER *CHAOS.*

DON'T *WORRY*, SIR--*WE'RE HERE.*

I'M NOT WORRIED IN THE LEAST, *MR. DABIKU.*

BUT REST ASSURED THAT, HOWEVER *NOBLE* YOUR MOTIVES--

--I DON'T NEED YOUR HELP.

I COULD NEVER SEE IT CLEARLY, BUT I COULD *FEEL* IT: A THING OF SPITE AND CRUELTY AND ARROGANCE...

...TAUNTING ME.

"*WHAT ARE YOU?*" I WOULD ASK: NO ANSWER WOULD COME. BUT *NOW* I SEE.

NOW I *KNOW.*

IT IS THE MONSTER THAT DEVOURED MY HOMELAND, CONSUMED MY MOTHER'S SANITY, DROVE ME INTO THE JUNGLES--

THE SPIDER.

YES, IT HAS A *NAME* NOW. AND SOMEHOW...IT'S ALIVE IN *KAINE*. ALIVE...

...AND *HUNGRY.*

THE SPIDER WANTS MY HEART, MY SANITY, MY *VERY SOUL.* AND I DON'T KNOW IF I HAVE THE STRENGTH--OR THE *WILL*--

...TO STOP IT.

...Y'KNOW, KRAVINOFF--I *SEE* THINGS SOMETIMES. FRAGMENTS OF THE *FUTURE*. I GUESS YOU COULD CALL THEM *VISIONS*.

YOU WERE *IN* ONE OF THOSE VISIONS. STANDING OVER MY CORPSE. THE *INSTRUMENT* OF MY *DEATH*.

THAT'S WHY I *CAME* HERE, Y'KNOW. I WAS HOPING YOU'D BE THE ONE TO DO...WHAT I COULD NEVER DO FOR *MYSELF*.

I WAS WRONG.

YOU'RE NOT MY DEATH.

I'M YOURS.

AND THAT REALLY PISSES ME OFF.

HERE LIES KAINE

SLAIN BY THE HUNTER

THAT'S WHY I'M NOT GONNA JUST KILL YOU. NO--

--I'M GONNA BURY YOU ALIVE.

SHUK SHUK

SHUK SHUK

SHUK

SHUK SHUK SHUK

SHUK SHUK

SHUK

SPYDER! SPYDER! BURNING BRIGHT

IN THE FORESTS OF THE NIGHT,

WHAT IMMORTAL HAND OR EYE

COULD FRAME THY FEARFUL

SYMMETRY?

IF THIS *IS* DESTINY, SPIDER-- THEN I *EMBRACE* IT, I EMBRACE *YOU*, AS I LIVED...

...WITH THE *FULLNESS* OF MY PASSION, THE *INFERNO* OF MY HATE.

AND IF I'M MEANT TO *DIE* AS WE GRAPPLE HERE TONIGHT...

CHUFT

SHUK

CHUD

CHUD

CHUD

...SO BE IT?

THREE DAYS IN THE GROUND. IN THE GRAVE.

THREE DAYS IN THE WARM AND WELCOME DARK.

BUT IT TAKES MORE THAN *THAT* TO SLAY THE HUNTER.

FOR DECADES I HAVE KEPT THIS BODY STRONG AND YOUNG, FED IT ROOTS AND HERBS AND POTIONS THAT HAVE KEPT *TIME* AND *DISEASE* AT BAY.

MY *WOUNDS* HEAL WITH MIRACULOUS SPEED. I AM *IMMUNE* TO THE RAVAGES OF AGE.

IF ONLY MY *HEART* WERE IMMUNE, AS WELL.

THREE DAYS IN THE GROUND. IN THE GRAVE. THREE DAYS IN THE WARM AND WELCOME DARK.

BUT *NO DEATH* FOR SERGEI KRAVINOFF.

NOT *YET*.

FOR THE GROUND WHISPERED TO ME. THE GRAVE TOLD ME ITS SECRETS. AND THE DARK?

THE DARK *ENLIGHTENED* ME.

AND I SAW THAT THIS KAINE IS *NOT* THE SPYDER... BUT ITS *HERALD:* CRYING IN THE WILDERNESS, ANNOUNCING ITS ARRIVAL.

SAW, TOO, THE *TRUE FACE* OF THE SPIDER'S VESSEL. SAW IT--AND RECOGNIZED IT.

FOR WE HAVE MET *BEFORE.* AND, SOON... WE WILL MEET *AGAIN.*

FOR THE *FINAL TIME.*

...I GOT FIVE WITNESSES THAT SWEAR HE'S *ALIVE!*

KRAVEN'S **ALIVE,** DAMMIT!

HONESTLY? I'M NOT *SURPRISED.*

YOU NEVER CAN *TRUST* THOSE JUNGLE *WITCH DOCTORS.*

YOU THINK THIS IS *FUNNY?* YOU THINK THIS IS SOME KIND OF FREAKIN' *JOKE?*

IN A STRANGE WAY--

--I DO.

AHHH!!

IF *KRAVINOFF* IS ALIVE--THEN PERHAPS MY *VISION* IS, TOO.

THINK ABOUT IT, GENTLEMEN--

PERHAPS THE DAY WILL COME WHEN HE PUTS *ME* IN THAT GRAVE... AND ENDS THIS FARCE OF A LIFE ONCE AND FOR ALL.

OR, *HELL*--MAYBE I'LL NEVER CROSS PATHS WITH THE HUNTER AGAIN.

THAT'S BETTER.

TIME WILL TELL, I GUESS.

IT ALWAYS *DOES.*

The End

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAIL

TOM BRENNAN ASST. EDITOR
STEPHEN WACKER EDITOR
TOM BREVOORT EXECUTIVE EDITOR
JOE QUESADA EDITOR IN CHIEF
DAN BUCKLEY PUBLISHER
ALAN FINE EXEC. PRODUCER

And that's the Grim Hunt, folks. Both of us here in the Spidey Office want to extend a huge thank you to the creative team for their engaging and brutal work in executing this particular story during some severe deadline crunches. In addition, everyone who has worked on *Amazing* over the past couple of years helping to set up the hints and clues deserves a bow as well.

And let me one last time mention the work of J.M. DeMatteis and Mike Zeck on the original "Kraven's Last Hunt." One of the best super hero stories you'll ever read and a book you should be ordering from your comic book retailer before reading another word on this page.

Lots of big Spidey events are just around the corner, but before we can get to them we've got to get through more of your comments on "Something Can Stop The Juggernaut!"

Spidey Team,

I just finished issue #629. Excellent read. I had just recently sent an email on 4/15 concerning the identity of Kraven's "daughter." After reading the Item section of Spider-Mail I am even more convinced that she is May Parker. It's too bad that if I'm right and these get into print that it won't be until September or later. So if I'm right how about a secret no prize until then? I won't tell. Honest.

John Gresko
Via e-mail

Sorry, John, as you can see from "Grim Hunt," Kraven's daughter was exactly who she said she was.

I do have it on good authority, though, that Publisher Dan Buckley is really the Rhino.

One of the advantages about editing a comic like Spider-Man is the different people you get to "meet" from various parts of life and parts of the world who may happen to pick up the book. We get an incredible amount of mail on Spidey and when the letters don't go on for pages about how mean I am to Brennan or how much Brennan deserves a raise (Hi, Brennan's mom!), we often find out that many of you lead interesting lives and have very different perspectives.

Occasionally we even learn something from you knuckleheads (which is very difficult for me considering I really haven't had room in my head to learn new things since 1988). Here's a couple letters that illustrate my point...and yes one's for an older issue. SUE ME!!

Dear Stephen,

Great to see Roger Stern writing Amazing Spider-Man again - and doing a mostly-sterling job - but I do think ol' Sterno's being a little bit blase about cluster headaches.

If Carlie's father really used to get them, she'd have known they are severe one-sided headaches, typically felt in or around one eye or temple. You don't get them between the eyes. Also, they come on so quickly that, if she thought Peter had one, she could reasonably be expected to want to make sure he was able to get back home. It's also reasonable to assume Carlie would know to look for some of the symptoms such as redness and watering of the affected eye, swelling and drooping of the eyelid, and a bad case of the sweats! I should probably add that the likelihood of Peter suffering from this extremely rare condition is remote as it only affects one in a thousand people - I'm one of about 60,000 sufferers in the UK, out of a population of more than 60 million!

It was nice to see it mentioned in a mainstream comic-book, though - even if the reference was a little misleading. For information, if Peter really had been suffering a cluster headache attack, he could have expected to be having severe one-sided migraine attacks at least twice a day (I tend to get them four times a day) for a period of anything up to 12 weeks.

So there you have it – I thought you'd appreciate a few facts.

And now, having climbed down from one soapbox, I'm going to get on another to support Jonah Jameson's decision to fire Pete for faking a photograph. As a newspaper reporter (and occasionally editor) myself, I know that JJJ was absolutely right to do this. Having been a news photographer for many years, it's reasonable to expect Peter to know that the information provided by people working in the news and current affairs industry is expected to consist of facts, or opinion based on facts. In falsifying a photo – no matter how noble his intentions – Peter betrayed the public's trust. To be honest, I was unpleasantly surprised that you were prepared to show him making this huge lapse of judgment.

Still, the development offers up new opportunities for agony in the life of our favourite Everyman and I'm looking forward to seeing what happens next.

Mike Sivier
Llandrindod Wells, Wales

Hello Spidey office

First off, you will have to forgive me for this delayed reply to issue #613. I'm a new father and work long hours in a laboratory, thus my comic reading usually happens in bursts (I'm only up to issue #616, as of now).

I've been very pleased with the stories and artwork that has been published in "recent" storylines. I was a skeptic of non-married, 3 issues-per-month Spider-Man, but I think you've been pulling it off marvelously (pun intended). Specifically in the Gauntlet storyline, the new character depth shown for the Chameleon (helping those for whom he masquerades), Electro (struggling to control his powers and afford an expensive surgery), and Sandman (wanting a family/child to care for) have been very touching and generates understanding / sympathy for the "bad guy's" perspective.

However, I do have one small concern regarding issue #613. The aforementioned surgery for Electro made no scientific sense. I know that is a strange statement since you deal with much that is pure science fiction, but it rubbed me the wrong way. I have a Bachelors in Chemistry and a Ph.D. from the Microbiology and Immunology department at the University of Rochester, so I feel I can speak to issues of biological science.

I'm talking specifically about the use of "custom-engineered bacteriophages that are linked to the carbon atoms in Dillion's body to amplify his battery capacity". Bacteriophages do not bind to carbon atoms. Bateriophages are made of proteins which are capable of interacting with other proteins, but proteins cannot specifically interact with one particular type of atom. Protein / protein interactions ARE governed by interactions of atoms, but it's the atoms carrying extra charges (Nitrogen, Oxygen, Calcium, Metals, etc) that are primarily responsible for the phenomenon. How carbon atoms could be related to Electro's battery capacity, is beyond me. There is thought of using phages as gene therapy vectors, which could have worked well for some genetic sort of explanation. Alternatively, a surgery to graft some sort of superconducting material that would keep Electro's current from dying would also maintain at least a realistic logic to the science fiction. If there was some sort of deeper reason for the use of bacteriophage, please let me know.

Keep up the good work and I look forward to catching up with the current issues!

Matthew Giannandrea, Ph.D.
University of Rochester,
New York

Matthew, it goes without saying that with my Bachelor's of Fine Arts in Theatre, I know the answer to this (and certainly the idea of "phages as gene therapy vectors" made me chuckle all through the week! I mean the very thought...!), but let me promise you and all of your friends out there in science-land that in one week I will have an official answer from the story's writer Mark Waid!

(Personally I just blame unstable molecules.)

We also received interesting letters from Tolga Kolburan, Mike Sivier, Kelly Salmon, Francesco Vanagoli, Jorge Balderas, Ian Billcliff, Jacob Spiwak, Jason Santa and Govinda Jones.

Remember, if you're in San Diego next week (or even near a computer) be sure to check out Marvel.com for some big news about the future of Spider-Man and about the next big Spidey story: Origin of The Species.

And, of course next week we also start the Spidey event of the summer *One Moment in Time* wherein we answer the questions about Spidey's past many of you have been demanding since *One More Day* made history almost 3 years ago. It's by Joe Quesada and Paolo Rivera and it's worth the wait.

See ya then.

Viva Hollingsworth!

Simperin' Steve
6/24/10

Cover #1 by Mike Fyles
Cover #2 by Olivier Coipel, Mark Morales & Justin Ponsor

IN ONE WEEK

O.M.I.T.

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SIT TIGHT, SPIDEY AFICIONADOS! TIME ONCE AGAIN FOR AMERICA'S FAVORITE TWO-PAGE FEATURE: SPIDEY SUNDAYS!

THE EVIL BRAIN AND THE BRAINLESS BULL HAVE SECRETLY FOLLOWED PETER INTO THE SPIDER-MAN DIMENSION! AND THAT'S ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW!

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

by Stan Lee & Marcos Martin

THAT KID, PETER, IS HELPING SPIDER-MAN BUILD A *TIME MACHINE!*

HOW D'YA KNOW, BRAIN?

DIDN'T YOU HEAR REED RICHARDS TELL HIM TO READJUST THE FRAMMISTAT OF HIS DIGITAL ACCELERATOR TO THE PROPER MOLECULAR SYNCHRONISM?

OHHHH, YEAH. I MUST'A-LIKE--FORGOT.

WOW! I'M GONNA BE THE FIRST MAN EVER TO *TRAVEL IN TIME!*

BUT I WANNA DO IT AS *SPIDER-MAN!*

MY COSTUME'S IN THE CLOSET!

HE'S LIKE--*GONE!* HIS INVENTION MADE HIM *DISAPPEAR!*

NO, YOU CRETIN! HE JUST WENT INTO ANOTHER ROOM!

WAIT'LL THE WORLD OF THE FUTURE GETS A LOOK AT *ME!*

DUH, WHERE'D *SPIDER-MAN* COME FROM?

PARKER MUST HAVE TOLD HIM THE INVENTION IS READY!

BRAIN! LOOK WHO'S COMIN'!

NOW TO SETTLE WITH MY MOST HATED ENEMY *ONCE AND FOR ALL!*

SURPRISED YOU, HUH? HEY, THAT'S WHAT WE DO! SEE YA NEXT ISH!

JUST ANOTHER FRIENDLY CLARIFICATION FROM THE HELPFUL STAFF AT MIGHTY MARVEL. AND NOW, BACK TO OUR SUSPENSE-FILLED SAGA...

FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO FIND THIS RIVETING TALE A BIT TOO COMPLEX, BRAIN AND BULL THINK SPIDEY AND PETER ARE TWO DIFFERENT PEOPLE.

Grim Hunt Epilogue.

AND SOMEWHERE ELSE...WHERE THE MOST TATTERED THREADS OF THE WEB ARE LEFT TO ROT...

A REMINDER...THAT *NOTHING TRULY* DIES ON THIS EARTH...SO LONG AS THERE IS *BALANCE*.

KAINE PARKER — A BROTHER

ONE *HUNTER CHEATS DEATH* AND NOW WALKS THE EARTH...

SO ANOTHER MUST *RISE* TO MEET HIM.

RISE, *CURSED ONE*, THE THREAD OF YOUR WEB HAS NOT YET BEEN CUT...

RISE...TARANTULA.